



CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE Training Course

Venue: ARC-INSTITUTE FOR SOIL, CLIMATE AND WATER,
600 BELVEDERE STREET, ARCADIA PRETORIA, RSA

DATES: August / September 2024 (Depends on the availability of trainees. Minimum of 10 trainees)

COURSE FEE: R9, 000 per person (Includes tea and lunch)

COURSE DURATION: Five (5) days

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Ability to read and write English

BOOKS AND MANUALS: Course notes (Power point presentations)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?: Entrepreneurs, consultants, farmers and agricultural professionals (Extension Officers, technicians, researchers and lecturers)

DELIVERY MODE: Powerpoint presentations and hands-on practicals

Course objectives

The overall objective is to achieve a balance between environmental sustainability, economic viability, and social equity in agricultural systems. This will be done by:

- Educating farmers and agricultural professionals about sustainable farming practices that preserve and enhance soil health, minimize erosion, reduce input costs and promote long-term environmental sustainability.
- Introducing strategies that mitigate the impacts of climate change such as increased carbon sequestration in soils, reduced greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural activities and improved resilience to extreme weather events which will consequently contribute to food security by ensuring a reliable and sustainable food supply for present and future generations.

Course Outline:

- Soil health
- Definition and benefits of CA
- Integrated Soil fertility management
- Integrated weed management
- Integrated Pest and Disease Management
- Introduction to tractors and their functions
- Tractor Operation and Maintenance
- Calibration of a hand planter, knapsack and boom sprayers; and a no-till planter
- Farm Mechanisation and Management

Learning outcomes:

- Trainees will gain a deeper understanding of the principles and concepts of CA including soil health, water management, and biodiversity conservation.
- Through hands-on practical training, trainees will develop the skills necessary to implement CA techniques effectively.
- Trainees will learn how to identify and address challenges related to implementing CA in their specific contexts.
- The training will create awareness on the benefits of CA and empower trainees to adopt and adapt CA practices to their own farming systems leading to self-reliance.
- Training will foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing between trainees and trainees leading to the formation of networks and support systems within farming communities.

COURSE COORDINATOR & CONTACT:

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